Remarks

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1 and 67-83 are pending in the application, with claims 1 and 78-83 being the independent claims. Claims 67-77 correspond to original claims 2-12. Support for claims 78-83 can be found, for example, in original claims 13, 27, 53, 55, 57 and 60 respectively; page 4, lines 19-24; and page 12, lines 12-21 of the written description. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

It is respectfully believed that this application is now in condition for substantive examination. Prompt and favorable consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Aaron L. Schwartz Agent for Applicant Registration No. 48,181

Date: 3/27/02

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Version with markings to show changes made

Claims 67-83 were newly added.